## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 FMC-02 INR-07 NSAE-00 SAL-01 CG-00 DLOS-06 OES-06 L-03 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 /082 W
------141831Z 034862 /45

R 141244Z FEB 77 FM AMEMBASSY CAIRO TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1701 INFO AMCONSUL ALEXANDRIA COMSIXTHFLT CINCUSNAVEUR LONDON UK

**UNCLAS CAIRO 2660** 

AMCONSUL PORT SAID SENDS

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EWWT, BBAK, EG

SUBJ: US/CANADIAN TUG AND BARGE FIRM ASSIGNS RESIDENT OFFICER
TO SUPERVISE TRANSIT OF ITS VESSELS THROUGHT SUEZ CANAL

1. SUMMARY. N RESPONSE TO COMPLAINTS FROM ITS MASTERS AND INCREASING FRUSTRATION AT SEEMINGLY UNNECESSARY DELAYS IN THE TRANSIT OF ITS VESSELS THROUGH SUEZ CANAL, GLOBAL TRANSPORT ORGANIZATION (GTO), A JOINT TUG AND BARGE VENTURE BETWEEN SEVERAL US/CANADIAN FIRMS, HAS ASSIGNED A COMPANY OFFICER TO PORT SAID TO ACT AS RESIDENT SUPERVISOR FOR GTO OPERATIONS. IN ADDITION, GTO INTENDS TO ASSIGN A US FLAG TUG TO PORT SAID TO ASSIST ITS BARGES THROUGH THE CANAL AND THEREBY END ITS DEPENDENCE ON SUEZ CANAL AUTHORITY (SCA) TUGS. END SUMMARY.

2. CAPTAIN FRED S. C

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INS, A CANADIAN NATIONAL, HAS BEEN
ASSIGNED FULL-TIME TO PORT SAID BY GTO TO ENSURE THAT ITS
VESSELS EXPERIENCE MINIMUM DELAY IN TRANSITING THE
SUEZ CANAL. SCA REGULATIONS, WHICH REQUIRE TUGS
AND BARGES TO TRANSIT CANAL WITH ESCORT TUG, HAVE
RESULTED IN EXCESSIVE DELAYS DUE TO UNAVILABILITY OF

SCA TUGS ON REGULAR
BASIS. TRANSIT OF TURS AND BARGES
IS FURTHER COMPLICATED BY SCA'S APPARENT FEAR THAT
BARGES HAVE GREATER POTENTIAL FOR GROUNDING THAN A
SELF-PROPELLED VESSEL, A FEAR THAT RESULTS IN SCA

WITH HOLDING PERMISSION TO TRANSIT UNTIL WEATHER AND TRAFFIC CONDITIONS ARE NEAR PERFECT.

3. TO DEAL WITH THIS IROBLEM, GTO WILL ASSIGN THE US

FLAG TUG APACHIE TO PORT SAID TO PROVIDE ESCORT FOR ALL GTO TUGS AND BARGES TRANSITING CANAL. APACHIE, A TWIN SCREA, 3500 HP SEA-GOING TUG, HAS RECEIVED SCA PERMISSION TO OPERATE OUT OF PORT SAID FOR THIS PURPOSE AND TO BE AVAILABLE ON A SHORT-TERM CHARTER BASIS FOR EMERGENCY SALVAGE WORK. THOUGH APACHIE WILL INITIALLY

HAVE US CREW, GTO HOPES TO QUICKLY SUBSTITUTE EGYPTIAN SEAMEN AND OFFICERS.

4. GTO IS A JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN FEDERAL COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION COMPANY, CROWLEY MARITIME CORP., AND GENSTAR OVERSEAS, ORGANIZED TO PROVIDE RO/RO BARGE SERVICE BETWEEN EUROPEAN AND GULF PORTS. COLLINS EXPECTS TO HAVE TEN BARGES IN SERVICE BY MID-YEAR WITH AT LEAST ONE BARGE TRANSITING CANAL WEEKLY. ORGANIZATIONALLY, FEDERAL COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION UNCLASSIFIED

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IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPORT, CROWLEY MARITIME FFOR OPERATIONS PERSONNEL, AND GENSTAR

OVERSEAS FOR FINANCING. EACH COMPANY SUIPLIES 1/3 OF FLOATING EQUIPMENT.

5. FOR

COMSIXTHFLT AND CINCUSNAVEUR: CAPTAIN COLLINS
HAS INDICATED THAT TUG APAGHIE WOULD BE AVAILABLE TO
USN VESSELS ON A CONTRACT BASIS WHEN OTHERWISE STANDING
IDLE. GTO/PORT SAID CAN BE REACHED VIA TELEX 4195, PORT
SAID SHIPPING, ATTENTION CAPTAIN COLLINS - GTO.
SIGNED SURBER.
EILTS

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INN					

## Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

**Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED** 

Concepts: PERSONNEL APPOINTMENTS, CANALS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 14-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Decaption Note:

Disposition Action: n/a Disposition Approved on Date: Disposition Case Number: n/a Disposition Comment:

Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977CAIRO02660
Document Source: CORE

**Document Unique ID: 00** Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

**Expiration:** Film Number: D770052-0380 Format: TEL

From: CAIRO

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path:

ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770245/aaaabnzq.tel

Line Count: 113 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM

Message ID: 92006ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EB

Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Reference: n/a Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 27-Oct-2004 12:00:00 am

Review Event: Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3331609 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: US/CANADIAN TUG AND BARGE FIRM ASSIGNS RESIDENT OFFICER TO SUPERVISE TRANSIT OF ITS VESSELS THROUGHT SUEZ

TAGS: EWWT, BBAK, EG, GTO, GLOBAL TRANSPORT ORGANIZATION, (COLLINS, FRED S)

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/92006ec7-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

**Review Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released **US** Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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